



# Work and Development Order

## DID YOU KNOW

If you are eligible to apply for a Work and Development Order, you can apply to have all of your fines included in the Order.

The Work and Development Order Guidelines are available at [www.sdrc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.sdrc.nsw.gov.au). These guidelines set out what supporting documents are required with a Work and Development Order application.

## What is a Work and Development Order?

Work and Development Orders (WDO) are made by the State Debt Recovery (SDR) to allow eligible people who have a mental illness, intellectual disability or cognitive impairment, are homeless, are experiencing acute economic hardship, or have a serious addiction to drugs/alcohol/volatile substances to satisfy their fine debt through unpaid work with an approved organisation or by undertaking certain courses or treatment. A WDO can only be made if an application is supported by an approved organisation, or in the case of medical/mental health treatment, a health practitioner qualified to provide that treatment.

## Types of work or development activities

A WDO can include one or more of the following activities:

- unpaid work for, or on behalf of, an approved organisation
- medical or mental health treatment in accordance with a health practitioner's treatment plan
- educational, vocational or life skills course
- financial or other counselling
- drug or alcohol treatment
- a mentoring program (this option is only available if you are under 25 years of age).

**Note: Clients applying under the grounds of drugs/alcohol/volatile substances can only participate in drug and alcohol treatment and/or counselling.**

## What fines can I include in a WDO?

If you are eligible to apply for a WDO, fines already with SDR will be automatically included.

If a WDO is issued, no further enforcement costs will be applied, as long as you comply with all of the conditions.

## How will my debt be reduced?

Reduction of fines debt will be determined by the activity completed as part of the WDO.

## MORE INFORMATION



[www.sdro.nsw.gov.au](http://www.sdro.nsw.gov.au)

### Work and Development Order enquiries:



1300 478 879  
9:00 am – 5:00 pm, Mon. to Fri.  
Hearing or speech impaired users:  
TTY 133 677  
Speak and Listen 1300 555 727  
Overseas callers: +612 6354 7000



PO Box A2571  
Sydney South NSW 1235

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**Department of Finance, Services & Innovation**

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## How will my debt be reduced?

Reduction of fines debt will be determined by the activity completed as part of the WDO.

Activity	Cut out rate
Unpaid work for or on behalf of an approved organisation	\$30 per hour worked, to a maximum of \$1000 per month. Breaks are not to be counted.
Medical or mental health treatment in accordance with a practitioner's treatment plan	\$1000 per month for full compliance (or a proportion for partial compliance).
Educational, vocational or life skills course	\$50 per hour or \$350 per full (7 hour) day, to a maximum of \$1000 per month.
Financial or other counselling (including attending case management meetings)	\$50 per hour or \$350 per full (7 hour) day, to a maximum of \$1000 of fine debt per month.
Drug or alcohol treatment	\$1000 per month for full compliance (or a proportion for partial compliance).
Participation (as a mentee) in a mentoring program	\$1000 per month for full compliance (or a proportion for partial compliance).

## Who can support my application?

A list of approved organisations that can support your application is available at [www.sdro.nsw.gov.au](http://www.sdro.nsw.gov.au)

Your health practitioner, including a registered medical practitioner, a registered psychologist or nurse may also be able to support your application if medical or mental health treatment is required.

If you find a suitable organisation in your area, which is not on the list of those approved but wants to support your application, they may approach Department of Attorney General and Justice (DAGJ) to commence the application process.

## What should I do if I think I am eligible for a WDO?

If you think you may be eligible for a WDO, you should contact the WDO team on 1300 478 879. They may be able to assist you in locating your nearest approved organisation, who can assist you with completing and lodging the application.

## What happens if my application is approved?

If your application is approved, SDR will issue a WDO and suspend any enforcement action against you while it is in place. Any driving restrictions imposed against you will be lifted in order to assist your development. However, there may be other restrictions in place that were not imposed by SDR. You should contact NSW Roads and Maritime Services for this information.

## What happens if my application is not approved?

If your application is not approved, you may appeal this decision by applying to the Fines Hardship Review Board (FHRB). Read more about the application process at [www.sdro.nsw.gov.au](http://www.sdro.nsw.gov.au) or contact the Secretary of the FHRB on (02) 6354 7116.